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stone of an ordinary pattern to be used, while the other one provides for a head and foot-board of wood Posts of six-inch square stock. Rails, etc., of two-inch stock. Perforations chamfered or not, as desired. The designer can alter either of these to suit any party, or will correspond with parties desiring details of either or any other pattern.—F. T. C.

41. COMMUNION TABLE.—I send this design (Plate 63) and description in reply to "Clericus :" Frame of $1\frac{1}{4}$-in stock ; cut panels of $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; backing $\frac{7}{8}$ in.; chamfers, fluted edges, and edges of cut panels blacked. Retable may be omitted. The designs I. H. C. and the Alpha and Omega may be cut or carved of black walnut and planted on, or may be of oak, the same as the material of the communion table itself, and gilded or blacked. Either would be very suitable. The designer will be happy to correspond with the clergyman desiring this communion table with a view to supplying him with the details.—F. T. C.

WE have received a number of answers from other correspondents, but are obliged to hold them over for want of space.

G. H. T., of Albany, N. Y., sends us a description of the "Howe Truss" in reply to Wm. E. H. Query, No. 33, and forwards a sheet of drawings in illustration. We are sorry we cannot make use of the latter, owing to the coloring, as by our process we can only reproduce drawings in ink on white paper or tracing cloth. We are always pleased, however, to receive drawings or other matter from our correspondents in reply to queries, and in this case will forward the drawings and text to the inquirer.—ED.

## Useful Items for Office and Shop.

A NEW METHOD OF BENDING WOOD.—The bending of hard wood has hitherto been effected by means of hot water or steam—a process somewhat costly as regards fuel, and taking a long time. A patent has recently been taken out in Germany by MM. Bahse and Haendel for making sieve-hoops and like objects by a dry process, more cheaply and in shorter time, from cut wood. Two rollers are used, one above the other and having less velocity, so that it acts by holding back, while the lower extends the wood fibres. When the board, thus bent, leaves the rollers, it is fastened in the mouth of the sieve. The upper roller is fluted, the under one smooth. If two smooth rollers were used, a very much greater pressure would be necessary

ONE-IDEA MECHANICS.—The following remarks, from a very sensible article in the *American Machinist*, are worthy of consideration : "Many a mechanic has impaired his intellect by too intense study upon a single machine. The road to success through mechanical invention is strewn with wrecks mental as well as financial, mainly because so many anxious plodders in the old beaten track never acquire more than the one idea they had to start with, and often this is positively erroneous. It is well to persevere in a worthy effort, but unwise to run in an old rut without inclination to get out of it. We have met one-idea mechanics who would earnestly insist that their invention or discovery completely upset the elementary principles of mechanism as laid down in the books. When any astonishing claims of this kind are presented, it is well to investigate them carefully before jumping to a conclusion."

## Drawings for the Million.

THE complete clearing out of our "Detail Sheets" has encouraged us to offer the following packages of valuable drawings for sale, at the extremely low price of one dollar a package.

Each package will contain over two hundred designs, with all the necessary explanations and descriptions ; also, a valuable amount of building information, consisting of tables, rules, recipes, price-lists, etc., etc. Three of these packages bound together will make a very useful work of reference for the architect, builder, carpenter, joiner, or any one connected with the building trades :

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Package No. 1 contains 238 designs of cottages, dormer-windows. verandas, consoles, barge-boards, porches, gates, door-heads, gables, chimney-tops, cornice and brackets, crestings, scroll-work, summer-house, eave brackets, stairs, full-sized sections of hand-railing, bay-window, wooden chairs, tables, writing-desks, perforated woodwork, fancy brickwork, doors, etc., etc. Price $1.

Package No. 2 contains 15 elevations with plans of cottages and villas, 3 elevations and plans of churches, also over 200 designs of piazzas, bay-window cornices, hood brackets, gable triangles, chimney caps, crestings, window-caps, trusses, dormers, doors and frames, porches, corner finish, canopies, cornice arch, screens, gutters, brick and wood work, beltings, stair-balusters, newel-posts, flues, etc., etc. Price $1.

Package No. 3 contains 39 elevations and plans for cottages, villas and dwellings ; 10 elevations and plans for churches ; and 146 designs for brick and stone work, shipwork, half-timbered work, verandas, drawing lessons, windows, doors, etc., etc. ; also 26 designs of cornices, panels, etc., for plasterers. Price $1.

Package No. 4 contains 51 plans and elevations for cottages, villas, barns, stables, and railway stations ; also, 5 plans and elevations of churches ; and 115 detail drawings of scroll-work, windows, bay-windows, gables, verandas, side finish, newel-posts, shipwork, general house details, bay-window frames, frieze cornices, balustrades, oriel window, fences, gates, vestibule and front door, open timber roofs, etc., etc. Price $1.

Package No. 5 contains 72 elevations and plans of cottages, city houses, banks, villas, and country houses ; also plan and elevation of schoolhouse, and 125 detail drawings of desks, counters, doors, door finish, piazzas, gables, dormers, wainscoting, chimney-cases, ceilings, front gables, porches, verandas, timber roofs, crestings, towers, vanes, stairs, mantels, balusters, newels, grilles, cornices, gateways, railing, etc., etc.

This is an excellent package. Price $1.

Package No. 6 contains 38 plans and elevations of cottages, villas, and country houses ; 3 plans and elevations of churches ; and 185 detail drawings of fences, doors, windows, stairs, mantels, verandas, porches, stoops, carved work, gates, summer-house, newel-posts, balusters, wrought-iron work, chimney-tops, gables, examples of furniture, finials, bay-windows, dormers, hoods, arches, oriels, truncated gables, turned work, cornices, church furniture, counters, etc., etc.

Besides the above illustrative and necessary descriptive and explanatory matter, this package contains a series of illustrated papers on the use of the steel square. This package is an excellent one for carpenters and joiners who do work in the country towns, as the details are numerous and easily understood. Price $1.

Package No. 7 contains 44 plans and elevations of cottages and villas ; 164 detail drawings of roofs, mantels, windows, doors, balconies, verandas, stairs, newels, piazzas, vanes, dormers, pews, church finish, chimneys, brickwork, porches, cornices, pinnacles, brick arches, etc., etc. There are also five plans and